

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A speaker system comprising:
a main speaker;~~and~~
a plurality of subordinate speakers;
a first signal line connected in series to the plurality of subordinate speakers; and
a second signal line connected to the main speaker; wherein
a pseudo-spherical wave having the main speaker at a center thereof is
generated such that ~~both the main speaker and the plurality of subordinate speakers~~
are vibrated in a frequency range of piston vibration and are in phase with each other
and a propagation speed of a sound wave produced by vibration of the plurality of
subordinate speakers is less than a propagation speed of a sound wave produced by
vibration of the main speaker; and
the first signal line and the second signal line are connected in parallel.

Claim 2 (currently amended): A speaker system as claimed in claim 1, wherein
the main speaker and the plurality of subordinate speakers are arranged substantially
on the same surface so as to face in the same direction and so as not to lie one on top
of another and such that the plurality of subordinate speakers is vibrated with a smaller
amplitude than the main speaker.

Claims 3 and 4 (canceled).

Claim 5 (currently amended): A speaker system as claimed in claim 2, wherein a ~~plurality of the subordinate speakers are provided,~~ the main speaker is disposed in the center, and the plurality of subordinate speakers are arranged around the main speaker so as to have the same center.

Claim 6 (withdrawn): A speaker system as claimed in claim 5, wherein the plurality of subordinate speakers are located at different distances from the main speaker, and the farther the subordinate speaker is located from the main speaker, the smaller amplitude with which the subordinate speaker is vibrated.

Claim 7 (currently amended): A speaker system as claimed in claim 5, wherein the plurality of subordinate speakers includes at least two subordinate speakers, the main speaker and the at least two subordinate speakers have substantially the same acoustic characteristics, and the main speaker is arranged between the two subordinate speakers, wherein the at least two subordinate speakers and the main speakers are arranged so as to be substantially linear in a direction which is substantially perpendicular to a sound wave propagation direction, ~~and wherein a first signal line, in which the two subordinate speakers are connected in series, and a second signal line, in which the main speaker is connected, are connected in parallel.~~

Claim 8 (currently amended): A speaker system as claimed in claim 1, ~~further comprising a plurality of subordinate speakers, wherein~~ the main speaker and the plurality of subordinate speakers are arranged so as to lie one on top of another with a fixed space therebetween, the main speaker is disposed in the center, and ~~wherein~~ each of the main speaker and the plurality of subordinate speakers is provided with a sound wave propagation opening portion such that a sound wave radiated from each speaker is radiated in a direction which is substantially perpendicular to the propagation direction the sound wave.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A speaker system as claimed in claim 8, wherein the main speaker and the plurality of subordinate speakers have substantially the same acoustic characteristics and the speakers are arranged such that the main speaker is disposed between the subordinate speakers, wherein the sound wave propagation opening portion corresponding to the main speaker and the sound wave propagation opening portion corresponding to the subordinate speaker have substantially the same opening area, ~~and wherein a first signal line, in which the subordinate speakers are connected in series, and a second signal line, in which the main speaker is connected, are connected in parallel.~~

Claim 10 (currently amended): A speaker system as claimed in claim 8, wherein the main speaker and the plurality of subordinate speakers have substantially the same acoustic characteristics and the speakers are arranged such that the main speaker is disposed between the plurality of subordinate speakers, wherein the opening area of the sound wave propagation opening portion corresponding to the main speaker is smaller than the opening area of the sound wave propagation opening portion corresponding to the plurality of subordinate speakers, ~~and wherein the main speaker and the subordinate speakers are connected in parallel to an audio signal line.~~

Claim 11 (currently amended): A speaker system comprising:
a main speaker; and
~~at least one~~ at least two subordinate speakers;
a first signal line connected in series to the at least two subordinate speakers;
and
a second signal line connected to the main speaker; wherein
the main speaker and the ~~at least one~~ at least two subordinate speakers are arranged such that a pseudo-spherical wave having the main speaker at a center

thereof is generated and the main speaker and ~~at least one~~the at least two subordinate speakers are vibrated in a frequency range of piston vibration and are in phase with each other and a propagation speed of a sound wave produced by vibration of the at least two subordinate speakers is less than a propagation speed of a sound wave produced by vibration of the main speaker; and

the first signal line and the second signal line are connected in parallel.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A speaker system as claimed in claim 11, wherein the main speaker and the ~~at least one~~at least two subordinate speakers are arranged substantially on the same surface of a substrate so as to face in the same direction and so as not to lie one on top of another and such that the ~~at least one~~at least two subordinate speakers are ~~is~~ vibrated with a smaller amplitude than the main speaker.

Claims 13 and 14 (canceled).

Claim 15 (currently amended): A speaker system as claimed in claim 12, wherein ~~the at least one subordinate speaker includes a plurality of the subordinate speakers,~~ the main speaker is disposed in the center, and the ~~plurality of~~ at least two subordinate speakers are arranged around the main speaker so as to have the same center.

Claim 16 (currently amended): A speaker system as claimed in claim 15, wherein ~~the plurality of the at least two~~ subordinate speakers are located at different distances from the main speaker, and the farther the subordinate speaker is located from the main speaker, the smaller amplitude with which the subordinate speaker is vibrated.

Claim 17 (currently amended): A speaker system as claimed in claim 15, wherein ~~the plurality of subordinate speaker includes two subordinate speakers,~~ the main speaker and the at least two subordinate speakers have substantially the same acoustic characteristics, and the main speaker is arranged between the at least two subordinate speakers, wherein the at least two subordinate speakers and the main speakers are arranged so as to be substantially linear in a direction which is substantially perpendicular to a sound wave propagation direction, ~~and wherein a first signal line, in which the two subordinate speakers are connected in series, and a second signal line, in which the main speaker is connected, are connected in parallel.~~

Claim 18 (currently amended): A speaker system as claimed in claim 11, wherein ~~the at least one subordinate speaker includes a plurality of the subordinate speakers,~~ the main speaker and the plurality of at least two subordinate speakers are arranged so as to lie one on top of another with a fixed space therebetween, the main speaker is disposed in the center, and wherein each of the main speaker and the at least two subordinate speakers ~~is are~~ provided with a sound wave propagation opening portion such that a sound wave radiated from each speaker is radiated in a direction which is substantially perpendicular to the propagation direction the sound wave.

Claim 19 (currently amended): A speaker system as claimed in claim 18, wherein the main speaker and the plurality of at least two subordinate speakers have substantially the same acoustic characteristics and the speakers are arranged such that the main speaker is disposed between the at least two subordinate speakers, wherein the sound wave propagation opening portion corresponding to the main speaker and the sound wave propagation opening portion corresponding to the at least two subordinate speakers have substantially the same opening area, ~~and wherein a first signal line, in which the subordinate speakers are connected in series, and a second signal line, in which the main speaker is connected, are connected in parallel.~~

Claim 20 (currently amended): A speaker system as claimed in claim 18, wherein the main speaker and the ~~plurality of~~ at least two subordinate speakers have substantially the same acoustic characteristics and the speakers are arranged such that the main speaker is disposed between the at least two subordinate speakers, wherein the opening area of the sound wave propagation opening portion corresponding to the main speaker is smaller than the opening area of the sound wave propagation opening portion corresponding to the at least two subordinate speakers, ~~and wherein the main speaker and the subordinate speakers are connected in parallel to an audio signal line.~~